

## **Egremont Housing Committee Minutes**

June 16, 2021

Meeting Held at French Park Pavillion

In Attendance:

Committee Members: Joan Goodkind, Fred Gordon, Mark Holmes, Richard Allen

Guests: Ken Walto, Berkshire Regional Planning Commission (BPRC)

Meeting called to order by Joan Goodkind at 5:10 p.m.

The May 12, 2021, minutes were accepted and approved.

### **Housing Trust**

The Internal Revenue Service approved the Housing Trust as a 501(c)3 organization. At this time, the Trust has Richard Allen, Richard Stanley and Buzz McGraw as Board Directors. Ideally, the Board will consist of 5-7 members and an active search for additional board members is in progress.

The Trust will accept land and cash donations to pursue affordable housing outside of town owned land. Richard Allen's intent is to offer 2 plus acres of land he owns on Oxbow Road for construction of moderate income, duplex housing. The goal is to sell houses for between \$225-250,000. The housing will contain sale restrictions to ensure the houses remain affordable.

### **Town Property set aside for Affordable Housing**

Funding for a feasibility study, up to \$10,000, was approved by voters at the Egremont Annual Town Meeting with work starting no earlier than July, 1, 2021. Joan will contact SK Design Group to gain additional detail on the number of units the property can support along with the timeline for completion of the project. The Housing Committee will invite Jim Scalise to brief us on the project and its findings when available.

Mark Holmes told the Committee that Carolyn Valli learned that Habitat for Humanity can develop said land with a 99 year lease in lieu of land ownership.

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The Housing Committee was granted assistance for technical/ planning Assistance from the BPRC. Ken Walto, BRPC, formerly Town Manager of Dalton, was assigned to assist the Housing Committee. Ken will review the feasibility study from SK Design and has reviewed the Affordable Housing Request for Proposal on town land and believes it “looks good”.

Ken will also research the 99 year lease of land versus the sale of the land, and any permitting for housing units on town property if the property is sold.

Meeting adjourned at 6:15.

The next meeting is scheduled for July 14th, at 5:00, via Zoom.

Respectively submitted,  
Fred Gordon